



NAFTA Technical Working Group on Pesticides
Grupo de Trabajo Técnico del TLC sobre Plaguicidas
Groupe de travail technique de l'ALENA sur les pesticides

**NORTH AMERICAN FREE
TRADE AGREEMENT**

TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP

ON PESTICIDES

WORKPLAN

November 5, 2003

NAFTA TWG WORKPLAN

FOOD RESIDUE SUBCOMMITTEE

The Food Residue Subcommittee projects focus on removing regulatory obstacles to establishing North American MRLs or tolerances for pesticide residues on foods. Projects are in support of the following Work Areas of *The North American Initiative: The Next Five Years*: minor use pesticides (1b); harmonization of maximum residue limits/tolerances (1c); import tolerance guidelines (1e).

| Project/Activity | Purpose | Deliverable | Lead Members |
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| Trade Irritant Resolution | North American industry and growers have in the past identified and continue now to identify the establishment of harmonized NAFTA MRLs/tolerances in the three NAFTA countries as a priority. Originally, the TWG adopted an approach to resolving MRL-related trade irritants documented in the <u>Procedures for the Identification and Resolution of NAFTA Pesticide Trade Irritants</u> (1998). Although this original approach resulted in resolution of a number of MRL-related trade irritants, it is clear that this approach does not fully address important MRL discrepancies. The TWG is committed to working with users to identify the most important MRL discrepancies and then with industry to remedy them in the most cost-effective and sustainable manner. The new pulse and tomato projects will allow the three governments to explore this new approach with users and industry. But the governments will also work with other interested commodity groups to help identify other opportunities to address significant MRL discrepancies. MRL/tolerance harmonization will standardize and broaden the protection of human health across North America by establishing stringent health based limits that are applied throughout the region and that promote the free trade of safe food products. The TWG will continue to harmonize MRLs in Joint Reviews as much as possible. | Areas of cooperation are currently under development. | D. Edwards (US) A. Ally (Can) A. Velez (Mex) |

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| NAFTA Guidance for the Establishment of Tolerances/MRLs for Imported Commodities | To develop common NAFTA import tolerance guidance for the establishment of pesticide tolerances/MRLs in NAFTA countries. This includes both guidance on data requirements and on non-science policy and procedures, taking into account regulatory requirements, safety concerns and views of each country. | Import tolerance document released for comments under evaluation. Release final Import Tolerance Guidance, Winter 2004 | R. McNally (US) A. Ally (Can) A. Velez (Mex) R. Alatorre (Mex) |
| Dietary Risk Assessment | A project to promote learning exchange between regulators regarding Dietary Risk Assessment. | Areas of cooperation are being explored and under development. | A. Ally (Can) M. Metzger (US) R. Alatorre (Mex) |
| Priority list for Minor Uses (Mexico) with Canada and US | To develop a priority list for Mexico for Minor Uses with Canada and the US. | Areas of cooperation are being explored and under development. | D. Kunkel (US) A. Velez (Mex) Canadian representation under consideration |
| Analyzing MRLs | To systematically analyze the MRL setting process in both Canada and United States to ensure a harmonized approach. | Milestones and project sheet are under development. | G. Herndon (US) A. Ally (Can) A. Velez (Mex) R. Alatorre (Mex) |

RISK REDUCTION SUBCOMMITTEE

The Risk Reduction Subcommittee projects focus on alternative approaches to pest management, including the promotion of integrated pest management (IPM) practices and strategies, and facilitating grower access to reduced risk pest management tools. Projects are in support of the following Work Areas of *The North American Initiative: The Next Five Years*: trilateral review (1a); agricultural worker protection (2b); IPM strategies (3a); reduced risk products (3b).

| Project/Activity | Purpose | Deliverable | Lead Members |
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| Joint Review of Microbials and Pheromones | To reach joint registration decisions for microbial and pheromones pesticides. A policy paper describing the joint review process for biopesticides was released in 1997, with revisions in 1998 and 2001. Project keeps track of ongoing microbial and pheromones joint reviews. | Operational and ongoing Regular reporting on status may be found at: www.hc-sc.gc.ca/pmra-arla/english/pubs/jnt_rev-e.html | J. Andersen (US) M. Brohm (Can) |
| IPM for Cranberry Production | To develop an integrated management strategy for cranberry production in partnership with affected sectors, including growers, the crop protection industry and regulatory, extension and research officials. The product is intended as an implementable strategy, adaptable to local situations, and incorporating a broad range of available tools. | Western Region IPM Manual completed Spring 2001. Eastern Region IPM Manual to be distributed 2003. Accomplishment Sheet under development. | R. Martin (Can) S. Schaible (US) |
| IPM in Canola | To develop, communicate and implement a North American integrated pest management (IPM) production system in canola. This project is currently in the advanced stages of implementation. | <i>Canola Growers Decision Support System</i> CD-Rom 2003. Accomplishment Sheet under development. | M. Pare (Can) J. Andersen (US) |
| Pesticide Resistance Management Labelling - Implementation | To implement and update as needed the guidelines for voluntary pesticide resistance management labeling in North America. Implementation of the guidelines across North America will help reduce the development of pesticide resistance by providing consistency in resistance management labeling for commercially registered product and all products being considered for approval in any or all of the NAFTA countries. | Implemented through label statement review in both the US and Canada. Accomplishment Sheet under development. | P. Beauchamp (Can) S. Matten (US) |

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| Pesticide Applicator Examination Development | To utilize a standard, officially-recognized process in the development of a core exam that is statistically reliable and valid in measuring the competency of a pesticide applicator. | Pilot Full implementation in participating provinces/states is scheduled for Fall of 2003. | J. Hamm Craig (Can) K. Keaney (US) J. Heying (US) |
| Pesticide Safety for Agricultural Workers | A bilateral (U.S.-Mexico) project to coordinate activities on risk reduction in pesticide use among those who work with or around pesticides. This project has not developed into a National Mexican Project. | Different training for agricultural workers and health professionals. Dates of workshops TBA. | G. Gonzalez (Mex) K. Keaney (US) |
| PCO Certification | To develop a PCO certification for North America. | Areas of cooperation are being explored and under development. | J. Andersen (US) K. Keaney (US) R. Alatorre (Mex) J. Hamm Craig (Can) |
| Disposal Project | To provide Mexican officials the opportunity to meet and have technical consultations with U.S. and international experts in managing unwanted or obsolete pesticide stocks and containers. Following initial consultation, conduct activities supporting disposal and recycling efforts for obsolete pesticides stockpiles and containers (e.g., EPA and FAO training). FAO inventory of Mexico's obsolete pesticide stockpiles will be used as a baseline for developing a regional or national disposal plan. | Milestones and project sheet are under development. | J. Andreasen (US) N. Fitz (US) A. Velez (Mex) R. Salas (Mex) A. Flores (Mex) |
| Increasing adoption of Biopesticides | A bilateral project (Can - US)to increase the adoption of Biopesticides by providing demonstration projects and web available results showing how biopesticides can effectively reduce reliance on chemical pesticides. | Areas of cooperation are being explored and under development. | J. Andersen (US) B. Belliveau (Can) |
| Pheromones project with Mexico | To extend PMRA, EPA and OECA approach to pheromone registration to Mexico. | Areas of cooperation are being explored and under development. | J. Andersen (US) B. Belliveau (Can) |
| Pollinator Protection | To work with multi-stakeholders, especially NGOs to reduce pesticide risk to pollinators and increase the use of lower risk pesticides to protect bees from mites. | Areas of cooperation are being explored and under development. | J. Andersen (US) H. Mulye (Can) |

Combined Risk Reduction & Food Residue Projects

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| Pulse Project | To develop and implement a Pest-based/Commodity North American Strategy for addressing Trade Irritants and Risk Reductions for PULSE Crops. (dry lentils, beans, chickpeas, and peas but excluding soybeans). | Milestones and project sheet are under development with a project sheet to be presented Winter 2003. | J. Hopkins (Can) D. Edwards (US) |
| Tomato Project | To develop and implement a Commodity/Pest-based North American Strategy for addressing Trade irritants and Risk Reductions for TOMATO Crops. | Milestones and project sheet are under development. | J. Hopkins (Can) D. Edwards (US) A. Velez (Mex) |

JOINT REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE

The Joint Review Subcommittee projects focus on developing processes to facilitate routine joint reviews and work-sharing. Projects are in support of the following work Areas of *The North American Initiative: The Next Five Years*: trilateral review (1a); minor use pesticides (1b); developing a NAFTA label (1d); non-agricultural pesticides (4b).

| Project/Activity | Purpose | Deliverable | Lead Members |
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| Improved Coordination of Re-evaluation/Re-registration | To identify common re-evaluation/re-registration initiatives and opportunities for work sharing and increased efficiency, focussing on chemical groups most affected by the <i>U.S. Food Quality Protection Act</i> (FQPA). | Operational and ongoing. | J. Worgan (Can) T. Myers (US) |

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| Joint Review of Chemical Pesticides | To conduct the Joint Review of: •Reduced Risk Chemicals (Group 1A- Reduced Risk and Group 1B- Negotiated Reduced Risk) •Non-Reduced Risk Chemicals that are NAFTA Priorities (Group 2) •Negotiated Joint Review Chemical (Group 3). | Operational and ongoing. Regular reporting on status may be found at: www.hc-sc.gc.ca/pmra-arla/english/pubs/jnt_rev-e.html In addition a revised public document will be tabled for approval at the next Executive Board Meeting. | M. Brohm (Can) A. Gilbert (US) |
| Co-operative Re-evaluation/Re-registration of Heavy Duty Wood Preservatives | To identify ingredients and uses being re-evaluated in each country; to exchange information on data requirements, decision-making processes, re-evaluation status and alternatives products; and to develop a joint work plan to complete the re-evaluation of these products. | Operational and ongoing. | N. Cook (US) J. Worgan (Can) |
| Pilot Joint Review of Non-Agricultural Pesticide | To pilot a Joint Review of an antimicrobial pesticide in order to develop a process for these Joint Reviews. Through this process, agencies can work on the harmonization of anti-microbial data requirements. | Process for the Joint Review of non-agricultural pesticides. | M. Brohm (Can) S. Carlisle (US) |
| Canada / Mexico harmonization on efficacy | A project to identify areas where Canadian Regulators can assist Mexico in the evaluation of Efficacy Data. | Areas of cooperation are being explored and under development. | R. Aucoin (Can) |
| GHS Implementation | A project to effectively coordinate North American implementation planning for GHS, particularly for pesticides. | Milestones and project sheet are under development. | M. Lowe (US) P. Petelle (Can) R. Alatorre (Mex) |
| Minor Use Joint Review Procedures Document | A project to develop a Minor Use Joint Review Document. | Areas of cooperation are being explored and under development. | M. Brohm (Can) A. Gilbert (US) |

REGULATORY CAPACITY BUILDING SUBCOMMITTEE

The Regulatory Capacity Building Subcommittee oversees a diverse range of projects aimed at creating regulatory infrastructures to facilitate work-sharing and the development of a North American market for pesticides. Projects are primarily in support of the trilateral review process (Work Area 1a) of *The North American Initiative: The Next Five Years*.

| Project/Activity | Purpose | Deliverable | Lead Members |
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| Electronic Review Templates for Data Evaluation Reports | To create a NAFTA set of standardized electronic review templates intended to increase efficiencies in the review of submission of data. | Templates are completed and are posted on the PMRA and EPA Websites. | D. Somers (Can) K. Bouve (US) |
| Electronic Submissions and Review | To achieve operating efficiencies in the regulation of pesticides through the promotion, facilitation and international harmonization of the electronic submission process, including the delivery, review, data interchange capability and archiving. | Routine submission of data in electronic format, with reviewers adequately trained to use tools that take advantage of EDS. This project is operational and on going with both the US and Canada encouraging electronic submissions. | K. Bouve (US) M. Zdunich (Can) |
| Process Mapping | To improve the efficiency of the submission process for joint reviews, PMRA and EPA propose to develop a harmonized process that maximizes the review and committee capacities in both countries while minimizing differences that impact on delivery of review decisions. | Completed and the process will be integrated into the revised Joint Review document. | D. Somers (Can) M. Stasikowski (US) |
| Guideline for conducting pesticide terrestrial field dissipation studies in Canada and the U.S. | To develop a protocol for conducting terrestrial field dissipation studies on pesticides in Canada and the US including guidance on the number of field trials. | Guideline finalized by Sept 04 after additional consultation with industry and a symposium. | C. Kriz (Can) E. Leovey (US) |

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| Harmonization of submission binders | To harmonize the approach to binder assembly for pesticide submissions. | Binder submission format harmonized and accomplishment sheet completed. | D. Somers (Can) K. Bouve (US) |
| Harmonize assembly of electronic submissions | To expand harmonization of PDF study submission process in PMRA and OPP. | PMRA and OPP agree to PDF format. | K. Bouve (US) M. Zdunich (Can) |
| MTD Harmonization | EPA's HED and PMRA are jointly developing a document to harmonize the approach for assessing MTD's in toxicity studies to establish adequacy of the study. This work is processing under an ILSI umbrella and expands on the ILSI report on Principles for the Selection of Doses in Chronic Rodent Bioassays (1997). | Project sheet are under development. | D. Somers (Can) M. Stasikowski (US) K. Baetcke (US) |
| Evaluation Guidance for DNT | To develop joint templates for DNT study reviews to increase the harmonization and review capacity of regulators. In addition, NAFTA members will develop a harmonized approach to study implementation through a reviewer teaching module. | Project sheet are under development. | D. Somers (Can) M. Stasikowski (US) E. Mendez(US) |

NAFTA TWG SECRETARIAT

The NAFTA TWG on Pesticides Secretariat supports the work of the TWG. It provides Secretariat services to the regular meetings of the TWG and the Executive Board and coordinates and facilitates the work of the various sub-committees reporting to the TWG. The Secretariat is comprised of: Ms. Lorry Frigerio, EPA, US; Ms. Lynn Lee, PMRA, Canada; and Ms. Renée Salas, CICOPAFEST, Mexico.

| Project / Activity | Purpose | Deliverable | Lead Members |
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| Finalization of <i>The North American Initiative: The Next Five Years</i> document | To revisit the goals contained in the <i>North American Initiative</i> document in light of current priorities and resources, and provide a conceptual framework for future activities. | Revised document to be submitted to July 2003 EB for approval. | Secretariat |
| Workplans | To develop and maintain NAFTA TWG on Pesticides workplans which further define and augment the Work Areas outlined in <i>The North American Initiative: The Next Five Years</i> . | Work plan to be approved and released to Stakeholders. | Secretariat |
| TWG Full Meeting, December 2003 | To plan, organize, and hold the annual Full meeting of the NAFTA TWG on Pesticides. | Canada will host meeting Dec. 2003. | L. Lee (Can) |
| NAFTA Label | To publish a guidance document for the submission of a NAFTA Label. | Milestones and project sheet are under development. | R. Aucoin (Can) R. Holloman (US) R. Salas (Mex) |
| Communication with stakeholders | To promote mechanisms for effective interaction with stakeholders as a way of improving efficiency. | Ongoing | Secretariat |

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